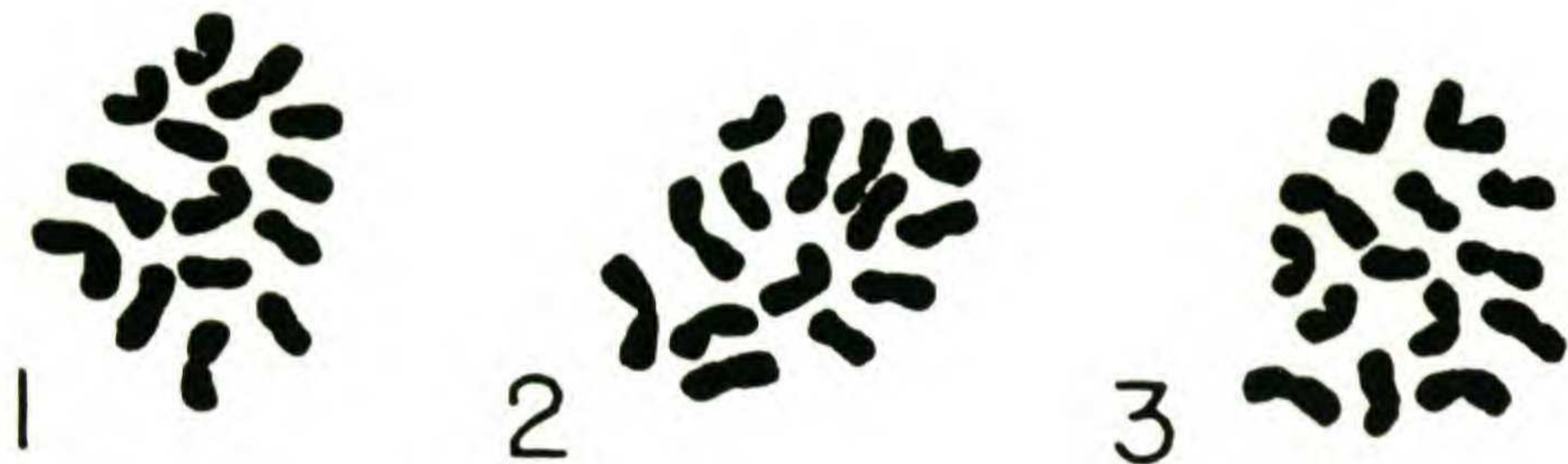


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CHROMOSOMES OF PROSERPINACA L.—This North American genus of *Halorrhagidaceae* appears to consist of three described species: *Proserpinaca palustris* L., *P. pectinata* Lam., and *P. intermedia* Mackenzie; Fernald and Griscom<sup>1</sup> recognize two varieties of *P. palustris*.



Fourteen somatic chromosomes in root-tip smears of PROSERPINACA PALUSTRIS (fig. 1), of *P. PECTINATA* (fig. 2), of *P. INTERMEDIA* (fig. 3). All  $\times 4500$ .

In a letter of August 15, 1939, Professor Fernald wrote: "In an account of the past year's work which is now going to the printer I specially refer to a pool not far from Lee Hall on the road from Yorktown to Williamsburg, full of *Proserpinaca pectinata*, *P. palustris* and *P. intermedia*, the latter sometimes thought to be a fertile hybrid. I call attention to this and to the beautiful opportunity to study the situation cytologically." Accordingly, on August 21, from a ditch by Route 170, about halfway between Lee Hall and Yorktown, Virginia, the writer collected specimens of the three species (Baldwin 421, 422, and 423). Root-tip smears showed each of the species to have 14 somatic chromosomes (FIGS. 1, 2, and 3).—J. T. BALDWIN, JR., Department of Botany, University of Michigan.

<sup>1</sup> Fernald and Griscom, *RHODORA* **37**: 167-189. 1935.